Extension of Service of CBI Officer

3737. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Crooks will rejoice at life after Biswas" which appeared in the 'Stateman' dated 16th January, 2001;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether in the interest of monitoring continuity in the investigation into various cases of scam it is proposed to grant him extension of service to the concerned Officer;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what further steps are being taken to speedier disposal of the case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) (1) The Supreme Court in its Order dated 5.11.1996 in Civil Appeal No. 14164-65 of 1996, *inter alia*, directed as under—

> "We have been assured that Dr. U.N. Biswas, Joint Director, CBI continues to be associated with the investigation and his participation in the investigation team in this capacity would continue till the completion of the investigation. Subject to any direction given hereafter by the High Court in this behalf, Dr. Biswas will continue to participate in the investigation of which the overall responsibility is that of the Director, CBI, who will ensure the production of all relevant material before the High Court at every relevant stage. The investigation should be continued in this manner till its completion with the filing of chargesheet in the competent court to enable the trial of the accused persons in accordance with law. The High Court

would continue its task in the manner indicated by the earlier order dated March 19, 1996 passed by this Court till the completion of the task with the filing of the charge sheet in the competent court."

(2) Under the extent rules governing the age of retirement of All India Services officers, there is no provision for extension in service beyond the age of 60 years except for a short extension not exceeding 3 months only on specific consideration of budget work or work of a Committee of which the officer is a full time member and the Committee is to be wound up within a short time.

(3) In view of the rule position and policy of the Government of India, and the directions of the Supreme Court as stated in para (1) above, an application was filed before the Supreme Court seeking its clarification/direction regarding the continuance or otherwise of Shri Biswas in the CBI.

(4) The Supreme Court in its orders dated 5.2.2001 has directed that the employment of Dr. U.N. Biswas should be continued for a period of one year, that is, upto 31st January, 2002, and that he should remain in charge of the investigations of the Animal Husbandry Division cases, until that time.

(5) Accordingly, the Government has approved the extension of service of Shri U.N. Biswas upto 31.1.2002 in relaxation of the All India Services (Death-cum-Retirement Benefits) Rules, 1958.

Extension of deputation period of officers

3738. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the deputation period of the officers are being extended year after year;